



IRISH NEWS

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 1868.

There are many places and many of our subscribers the editor of this paper has not visited for over two years. He hopes to have time to visit all before the close of this year. Friends, be prepared.

Jeff Davis has arrived in London. The London cab-strike is ended. Leno, Eugene's hairdresser, receives 30,000 francs per year. The Independence Belge editor is paid \$200,000 a year.

Bull Run Russell is a conservative candidate for Parliament.

Victoria rules over two hundred million Asiatic subjects.

There are nine boat clubs in the Vassar Female College.

The Prince of Wales is growing bald; so bald, it is said, there will soon be no hair apparent.

Thomas O'Connor, for thirteen years proof reader of the New York Tribune, died August 15th.

Mr. McCarthy of the London Star a warm friend of the United States, is coming to America this fall.

What is that which by losing an eye has nothing but a nose left? A nose.

Mrs. Guyot, a Frenchwoman, residing near Montana, was recently robbed and murdered. Her head was literally blown to pieces.

During the seven years ending December 31, 1867, the population of the United States was increased 1,457,568, by immigration.

Maj. B. B. Washington, said to be one of the nearest relatives of George Washington, died at Waverly, Va.

During the recent heated term in Illinois, farmers offered harvest hands from \$5 to \$7 a day, but could get none.

Gen. Grant has a farm of over 1,000 acres, nine miles southwest of St. Louis, well adapted to fruit and grain.

Twenty-six people were killed, and a great many seriously injured, by an unnecessary fire panic at the Manchester Theatre, July 31.

The distribution of the British regular army in 1867 was \$9,198 men at home: 48,280 in the Colonies; 111,960 in India. Total, 291,396.

The New York merchants have agreed to not sell any more goods, this season, to merchants in the South unless the cash accompanies orders.

The municipal authorities of Durango, Mexico, during the month of May, paid for killing 32,696 scorpions. The place must be a delightful one to live in.

The story that Newman Hall has been offered \$10,000 in gold to go to Chicago is unfounded. Mr. Hall is already receiving \$30,000 in gold in London.

Miss Beaunia Conant, of Brooklyn, daughter of the well-known Biblical translator, has been appointed Professor of English Literature in Rutgers College.

Charlotte Cushman is at Sharon Springs, and is setting fashionable society an example in refusing to dye her hair, which is now "all silvered over with the frosts of age."

A fatal collision occurred on the Oil Creek and Allegheny River railroad, at Rousseville, August 16th. Four persons were killed and one fatally injured.

The construction trains of the Central Pacific Railroad Company are now running to Winnemucca, three hundred and twenty-four miles east of Sacramento.

Two thousand Indians are marching on Benton City. The coaches have stopped running between Cheyenne and Denver in consequence of trouble on the line.

Patrick Morrissey, on the 25th of August, stabbed his mother while in a New York Police Court, where she had just entered complaint against him for mortally stabbing his sister.

Recently a girl twelve years old was burned to death in Ossian, Ind., by her clothes becoming ignited from a burning brush heap near to which she was standing.

The Bricklayers' Society of New York are forming a Co-operative Building Association, with a capital stock of \$100,000, made up of five thousand \$20 shares.

Broom corn was introduced into our country by Dr. Franklin. While examining a corn whisk [imported] he accidentally discovered a single seed, which the corn was propagated.

Madame Alexandrine Bris has passed a brilliant examination before the Faculty of Sciences in Paris and obtained the degree of Bachelor. She now intends to study medicine.

Two men who were asleep in a burning house at Scholhaire, New York, the other day, had their lives saved by a little dog, who, by biting, aroused them from their slumbers.

In an advertisement for a young gentleman who left his parents, it is stated that "if Master Jackey will return to his disconsolate parents, he shall not be sent to school and he shall sweeten his own tea."

The Fenian Picnic, which was to have taken place in Montreal, on the 2d inst., and about which troubles were anticipated, did not come off, the gardens being closed and guarded by a strong force of police.

The Guadalupe Rancho, in Santa Barbara county—the property of J. B. Ward, of San Francisco—is worked by forty laborers, has one thousand acres sowed in wheat, and five hundred in barley.

Charles Crocker, Esq., having offered a prize of fifty acres of land for the first child born in Reno, Mrs. J. A. Carnahan, who gave birth to a daughter on the 29th ult., claims the land.

Gov. Stanford, now in Salt Lake, has received a dispatch from his brother, who is at Benton City, going East, stating that the first stage station this side of that place is surrounded by 500 hostile Indians.

London, September 7th.—The Times of to-day says the annexation of Mexico to the United States is desirable, but could not be accomplished at present without a needless expenditure of money and blood.

The Erie Railroad Company has a new car sixty-seven feet in length divided into three compartments; it has a drawing room in the center, sleeping apartments at one end, and a regular day coach compartment at the other. It will cost \$20,000.

There is a man in a lunatic asylum in England who believes that the British Government wishes to build an iron foundry in his stomach. A great many men outside lunatic asylums treat their stomachs as if it were an iron foundry.

There are fifty thousand surplus women in Massachusetts. This fact should be advertised daily, in every newspaper, throughout the land.—Something must be radically wrong in the State which has done so much for Radicalism.

On the night of the 9th inst., the London police arrested a man named Augustin Byron, on suspicion of connection with the Fenian organization. A quantity of small arms and ammunition was found on the premises where the prisoner lodged.

Married, in Salt Lake City, 16th inst., in the presence of the Saints, Brigham Young to Mrs. J. R. Martin, Miss Emily P. Martin, Miss L. M. Pendegast, Mrs. R. M. Jenickson, Miss Susie P. Cleveland, all of the county of Berks, England.

During the past fiscal year the internal revenue receipts in New York city have amounted to \$22,000,000, and the total receipts since the law went into operation, on October 1st, 1862, aggregate \$133,000,000.

A man named James Davis, forty-three years of age, died in Boston, recently, from inflammation of the tissues and membranes of the stomach, induced by his having swallowed a small fish bone two months previous.

Jonas, from Bodega, visited Fair last night, and being asked by a friend how he liked the display of woollens, replied that the exhibit was a fine one, but that he saw a little piece of calico there that he admired more than all the woollen goods in San Francisco.

Ottawa, September 9.—The trial of Whelan is resumed. The testimony given is highly unfavorable to the prisoner. The case for the prosecution closed to-night. It is supposed the case for the defense will occupy about a week. Little doubt is entertained of the conviction of the prisoner.

Manchester, Eng., September 7th. Twenty persons have been arrested for taking part in the riot on Sunday. After a short preliminary examination the prisoners were remanded. The excitement was high and a renewal of the disturbances feared. Every precaution is taken to preserve order.

A lady and gentleman, on passing over the Pont de la Concorde, in Paris, were politely accosted by a respectable-looking man, who asked them, "Would you like to see the road to happiness?" Before he could receive a reply, he jumped upon the parapet of the bridge and plunged into the river. Two hours afterward his body was discovered.

Hon. Reverdy Johnson delivered a speech at Sheffield on the 4th inst., in which he said the character of Queen Victoria forbade the possibility of a rupture with England, and declared that the Americans were a homogeneous people, which the London Times admits in an article commenting on the speech.

Long Branch has twenty hotels, five miles of bathing shore, twenty-five miles of drives, five thousand guests, and ten thousand expected, one hundred new cottages, and an infinite number in contemplation, two railroads and two more talked of, and good order everywhere.

Mason, the wife-murderer, who is to be hanged soon, in Rochester, N. Y., was one of the founders of the Crescent Lodge of Good Templars of Troy, and, with his wife, attained the highest offices in the Lodge. At the time he seemed to be devotedly attached to his wife, who was a lady of fine talents and ability.

The line of the Central Pacific R.R. is advancing rapidly westward. The Salt Lake Telegraph says the construction is already completed to within 210 miles of Salt Lake Valley. By the 1st of October a section will be open at Green River. Between Green River and Salt Lake Valley the construction is going on with great rapidity. The heavy work is Quaking Asp Hill, head of Echo, and the Narrows, near Lost Creek. By the middle of October the heavy cut at Reynolds & Downing at Quaking Asp, will be completed; Miller & Patterson have plenty of men at the head of Echo and will be ready for the track layers, and from present indications President Young's contract will be successfully carried through and out of the way of the track layers.

The opposition steamer from Panama brings us intelligence which will be found elsewhere of a most destructive earthquake, which visited Peru and Ecuador on the 13th ult. As represented, it was the most terrible visitation of the kind recorded for centuries, if not the severest ever known. The ravages of the earthquake extended over a large extent of country, destroyed several towns, many lives, and much shipping. Among the latter, several American merchant ships and two war vessels, the Fredonia and Waterec. The tidal wave of fifty feet high, which accompanied the earthquake, is the greatest of which we have any record. Such a wave visiting San Francisco would flood the city nearly to Dupont street, and all that portion of it south of Market street to the Mission.—Call.

Ottawa, September 8th.—The city swarms with correspondents, detectives, etc. Around the jail a regiment is always encamped, and a guard of twenty men remains with Whelan every night. Each man is served with twenty-five rounds of ball cartridges. The loyalists have threatened that if justice is not done they will take Whelan by force and hang him. The public feeling is tense, and the moral conviction strong that Whelan is the murderer. Six or seven Head Centers from New York and Buffalo are here with money to aid the defense. They are closely watched. The defense are despondent. Threatening letters have been sent to all the witnesses for the prosecution. One of them was attacked and knocked down with a slung shot.

Ottawa, September 15.—A large crowd gathered outside the Court-room this morning, but very few were admitted. Whelan, on being brought in look pale and nervous. The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." The prisoner, who heard the announcement with great composure, then made a long address to the Court, in which he very emphatically and solemnly asserted his entire innocence of the crime. He denied having any connection with the Fenians, and declared that he had been condemned because he was a Roman Catholic; that evidence had been deliberately concocted to convict him. He was going on to speak of the cruel treatment of Irishmen by England, when he was interrupted by the Chief Justice, who pointed out that whatever might be the case elsewhere, in this country Irishmen and all other classes were treated alike before the law, and had no reasonable grounds for complaint. After solemnly cautioning the prisoner against entertaining any hopes of pardon, and imploring him to prepare for the future, his lordship sentenced him to be executed on Thursday, December 10th.

The Buffalo Commercial describes a thrilling incident which occurred at Niagara on the 17th ult.: A little girl, while getting upon the railing of the bridge leading from the main land to Goat Island, lost her balance and fell into the rapids. Instantly a young man named Moulton, who resides at Auburn, plunged in to rescue the child. Grasping the child and keeping her head above water, both were swept on toward the awful precipice, and destruction seemed inevitable. But Moulton being an expert swimmer, struggled manfully with the rushing torrent, and succeeded in reaching the shore only about fifteen feet from the brink of the cataract.

An extraordinary spectacle was witnessed recently on St. Brendan's Mountain, Kerry, Ireland. Bishop Moriarty celebrated Mass on the top of the mountain, which is about three thousand feet high, and is specially dedicated to St. Brendan, the patron saint of the county. There is a holy well at the top, which is held in very great veneration by the peasantry. An immense congregation assembled from all sides to witness the service. The people brought refreshments with them, but no tents were allowed to be erected.

London, September 6.—Murphy, champion of Protestantism in Parliament, addressed several thousand people in Manchester on Saturday night. The meeting was attacked by a mob of Irish Catholics, who drove off speakers. A sanguinary fight ensued, but the police finally succeeded in quelling the disturbance and arrested several of the leaders. Several minor disturbances occurred subsequently, by which a number of persons were badly injured. There is much excitement in the city.

FENIAN MATTERS.

In presenting his annual report to the Fenian Convention in New York on the 25th ult., the Chief Executive, John P. Savage, stated that when he took office Fenianism was in a very low state indeed; the organization so divided and demoralized that he would never have accepted the position had he known the truth. He then proceeded to explain his reason for departing, in some instances, from the requirements of the Fenian Brotherhood. He reviewed, in brief, the history of the negotiations for a union of the several branches of the Brotherhood, in December last, and then turned back to the disasters in Ireland in 1867. Unforeseen circumstances, he said, false and broken promises, and mistaken ideas of honor led to these disasters, and then a third scene came and Fenianism looked like a great funeral house at that time. We have now more than three and a half the number of Circles in good standing than when I entered office and we are in communication with twice as many more.

John P. Savage then proceeded to read his formal message to the Convention. The financial report was hopeful, and showed a considerable balance in the treasury in favor of the organization, and this not alone after bearing the current expenses of Mr. Savage's administration, but liquidating a large debt existing at the time of his assumption of the office. The details of these parts of the message are deemed by the Convention inexpedient for publication, but the following, as indicating the opinions of the Chief Executive on the revolutionary movements, will be found of general interest: "War," says Mr. Savage, "cannot be carried on with a few thousand dollars. There must be a fund behind the immediate expenditure, else the outlay made will, in all probability, produce disasters sufficient to deter a generation from action. However characterized by daring, self-sacrifice, and personal gallantry may have been the rising in Ireland, the demonstrations which followed in March, the thrilling engagements in Killeenry Wood, and the still more effective action in Manchester, chiefly prove to us what our people are capable of under more auspicious circumstances, and at the same time present lessons to us that we cannot afford to overlook. I do not underrate the nobility and distinguishedness of those events, but if we continue to add to the dead roll of martyrology as we have been doing, the record of our time and cause will be written in the reports of State trials rather than in those successful enterprises which distinguish the Washingtons from the Robert Emmets in history. Hence, with these conclusions guiding my judgment, and especially in view of these unpleasant retrospects, I do not think that any future Chief Executive of the Fenian Brotherhood will assume the responsibility of expending any large sums of money on the home organization until it is thoroughly re-constructed, its working system established, and communications established between it and the American Brotherhood are on as indispensable and unbreakable a basis as between the States and the executive officer. Mr. Savage was loudly applauded at the conclusion of his remarks, and committees were appointed, to whom the message was referred.

Chicago, September 10.—Another terrible marine disaster has cast a shadow over his community. The propelled Hippocampus left Benton Harbor, Mich., Monday evening, bound for this port with a cargo of peaches. Not arriving, a tug was despatched the next night in search of the missing vessel and brought back the hulls of the unfortunate steamer sunk in the middle of the lake, 30 miles from shore. All aboard are believed to be lost, on tidings having reached any port of any having escaped; from 50 to 60 persons thus found a watery grave. Portions of the wreck were found floating in the lake, but there was nothing to indicate what was the cause of the disaster.

Chicago, September 10.—A fearful accident occurred at the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad yesterday, two miles this side of Iowa City. The bridge was drawn, when a train going west came up. The engine leaped into the chasm, dragging three crowded cattle cars and one wheat car in a confused mass upon each other. The last car made a pile so high that it prevented the passenger cars following. The engineer and fireman were both killed, the former's head being severed from his body. No other persons were injured. Many cattle were killed.

A stranger came from the country, apparently an Irishman, was thrown from a wagon near the corner of California and Kearny streets, San Francisco, and very badly hurt, the scalp on one side of his head being cut open and torn loose in a shocking manner. He was taken to a barber shop on California street, where he received surgical assistance, and from thence taken home by his friends.

Queen Victoria travels on the continent under the title of the Countess of Kent. Her father was Duke of Kent.

EARTHQUAKE.

New York, September 12.—The steamer Guiding Star has arrived from Aspinwall. She brings the Evening Telegram the following intelligence: On the 13th August a terrible earthquake visited the cities along the coast of Peru and Ecuador, whereby thirty-two thousand lives were lost, and property valued at three hundred millions of dollars was destroyed. A rumbling sound preceded the earthquake. The sea was terribly agitated, and the country was flooded for a great distance. Arequipa, a city of 36,000 inhabitants, has passed away, and scarcely a vestige is left. Only four hundred lives were lost there. Arica, a town of 25,000 inhabitants, was also destroyed, leaving not a house standing. Five hundred perished there. A tidal wave, forty feet high, rolled with a terrific roar on the shore, carrying ships farther inland than ever before known. The United States store-ship Fredonia was capsized and all on board were lost. The Fredonia had \$1,800,000 worth of naval stores on board. The vessel was rolled over and smashed to atoms. The United States steamer Waterec was carried half a mile and left high and dry. Only one sailor was drowned. Owing to the great distance she never can be got aloft again. The Peruvian corvette America was also carried ashore and thirty-three drowned from her. The American merchantman, Rosa Rivers, the English ship Chancellors, and the French barque Edwards, were also lost. The towns of Iquique, Moquega, Zumbra and Pisayna are all utterly destroyed.—Over six hundred perished at Iquique. American merchants lose heavily and are nearly ruined. The towns of Iquique, San Pablo, and Iquique, are in ruins. Where Cotacachi formerly stood, there is now a lake. The populations of the above named towns are almost entirely destroyed. Pamacho, Puellars and Cachiguanio, are also destroyed. The dead are so numerous that the surviving inhabitants have been forced to fly from the stench of the putrefying bodies. In Guayaquil the earthquake was felt, but no damage was done. Letters from Quito, dated 19th ult., announce that the earthquake continued at intervals of a few hours. The President has issued a proclamation to the people, to come forward and help the sufferers.

We clip the following speculations on the Destruction of our Globe, from the Cornhill Magazine: In the present age, when the network of telegraphy brings all parts of the earth into close intercommunication, we are not likely to trace, even in the most widespread disasters, the approaching destruction of our globe. The same day which brings the intelligence of some desolating catastrophe brings evidence also that the devastation is but local. We are seldom informed of simultaneous, or nearly simultaneous, events happening in widely separated regions of the earth's surface. Accordingly, we are seldom led to dread the occurrence of any widely devastating series of catastrophes. But certainly events have happened during the past few months which might lead nervously disposed persons to imagine that the inhabitants of the earth are not perfectly safe from wide spread destructive agencies. The same week that brought news of the great hurricane which ravaged the West Indian isles, brought also the account of destructive hurricanes in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Then followed the series of earthquake shocks which have inflicted such injury on the much-tried inhabitants of St. Thomas, and which still continue to be felt at intervals. Next we hear of an earthquake in Somersetshire, then in Malta, then in Egypt, then at Formosa, then in San Salvador; and now, almost as we write, the bed of the Pacific is violently shaken, and hundreds of the inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands are destroyed by a violent uprush of molten matter. During all this time Vesuvius continues in violent eruption. Thus it has happened that we have heard a great deal lately of certain speculations—recently ventilated by an American philosopher—which treat the earth with complete annihilation. According to these views there are one great danger—the risk, namely, that some large volcanic vent should be formed beneath the bosom of the ocean. Through this vent the sea would rush into the interior of the earth, and being forthwith converted into steam by the intense subterranean heat, would rend the massive shell on which we live into a thousand fragments. Whether it is possible or not that such an event as this should take place, we shall not here try to enquire. Let it suffice that the risk—if there be any—is no greater now than it has been in any time during thousands of years past.

A process has just been patented in England, by which the bran of flour, after being separated, is ground into an impalpable powder and then mixed again with the flour, so that all the nutritious ingredients are preserved, while the fineness of the flour is not affected.

The Osmond mountain in Sweden is being bored for petroleum, which is supposed to exist in great abundance at the depth of six hundred feet. The wells are now down two hundred and fifty-three feet.

Very Rev. B. J. Spaulding, Vicar General of the Diocese of Louisville, Ky., and brother of the Most Rev. Archbishop of Baltimore, met with a shocking death, by accidental burning, in Louisville, on the night of the 3d inst. The following from the Louisville Courier gives particulars: It has been the custom of Father Spaulding to keep a gas-light, with a sliding tube, burning in his room at night. It seems that at about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 3d, the tube slipped down and came in contact with the mosquito bar. In a few moments the bed-clothing took fire, and when Father Spaulding awoke his night clothes were all in flames. He managed to extinguish the fire on his person, but not until his flesh was shockingly burned. In his terrible agony he rushed into the bath-room adjoining and bathed in cold water, which had the effect of intensifying his sufferings. Father Bonchet, hearing his groans, hastened to the room and found the bed-clothing burning rapidly. He at once threw them out of the window and checked the fire. Father Spaulding's night-clothes were burnt nearly off him, and he was writing in agony. He was wrapped in a sheet, and medical aid promptly summoned, but before the arrival of the doctors he became frantic with pain, and a second time immersed himself in the bath-tub. On the arrival of the physicians the proper remedies were applied for his relief, but to no purpose. He lingered in great agony until six o'clock the same evening, when death relieved him of his sufferings. His resort to water, there is no doubt, caused the fatal result. The announcement of this death last evening, and the terrible manner in which it happened, cast a gloom over the whole city, and there was mourning on every hand. The church bells solemnly tolled, and hundreds of our citizens, bowed in deep grief, repaired to the residence of Father Spaulding, adjoining the Cathedral, to mingle their sorrows with the bereaved relatives of the great and good man. The Cathedral was lit up, and the throng united in prayer for the peaceful repose of the soul of their beloved priest. The funeral took place on the 7th inst., and was attended by a vast concourse, the Irish Catholic societies mustering in full force.

The New York Prices Current, whose commercial editor formerly resided in San Francisco, says that an unerring indication of the financial condition of the industrial classes is usually shown by the statistics of savings institutions. Judged by this standard, the masses of California are in an eminently prosperous condition. There are ten savings institutions in San Francisco, besides several scattered through the interior, in towns like Sacramento, San Jose, Stockton, etc. Eight of the San Francisco institutions reported, on the 30th of June, an aggregate of \$19,687,000 deposits in gold—an increase of \$5,900,000 from the corresponding period in 1867. The cost of living in California is rather less in gold than it is in the Atlantic States in currency; and hence, with higher wages, and a superior climate the industrial classes have altogether smoother times than the same classes have in the older States.

There is now lying in the County Hospital of San Francisco, a Frenchman suffering from leprosy. From the crown of his head to the soles of his feet he is covered with scales, a portion of which peel off and drop whenever he moves his body. He suffers no pain whatever, has an excellent appetite, and appears to be as "happy and content" as the most satisfied of Swinley's boarders. He is compelled, however, to lie upon his back and cannot straighten his lower limbs, but beyond these inconveniences says he has nothing of which to complain. With a room entirely to himself, the bright sun shining in at the windows, with good food and attendance, he lies upon his back picking off his scales, a perfect picture of contentment. He has been peeling away at intervals for about three years, and as a consequence is now considerably reduced in size. Although yesterday was not much of a day for scales, he had nevertheless accumulated on the floor at his bedside enough to form a spot the size of a soap plate. When he gets up to have his bed made they fall from him on the floor like snowflakes upon the sod.

New York, September 9.—A special Ottawa despatch to the Herald says the city swarms with correspondents, detectives, etc. Around the jail a regiment is always encamped, and a guard of 20 men remains with Whelan every night. Each man is served with 25 rounds of ball and cartridge. The loyalists threatened that if justice is not done they will take Whelan by force and hang him. The public feeling is intense, and the moral conviction strong that Whelan is the murderer. Six or seven Head Centers from New York and Buffalo are here with money to aid the defense. They are closely watched. The defense are despondent. Threatening letters have been sent to all the witnesses for the prosecution. One of them was attacked and knocked down with a slung shot.

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The Merchants' Protective Union.

Ratings as to Standing and Credit.—It is generally known that there are in the city of New-York establishments styling themselves "Institutions," or "Commercial Agencies," or "Mercantile Agencies," which are supposed to have great influence and actual power in producing or prejudicing the standing and credit of business men throughout the Union. Having their own secret agents in nearly every city, town, village, and in almost every corner of the whole land, these concerns have become interwoven with the whole mercantile system of the country. Every merchant, trader, manufacturer, and banker, whether likely or not to make purchase on time or to ask for credit in any of the principal cities, is fully reported at their headquarters—his business, means, "respectability," standing, are published, and even his private habits are detailed and open to the inquiry of their customers. So complete and thorough a system of espionage as these concerns have everywhere extended, is probably unknown even to the police departments of France or Austria.

So long as business shall continue to be done upon the credit system, establishments of this nature will probably continue to exist, in some form or another; but the mode in which they have been conducted, namely, by printing Books of Reports, in which tens of thousands of business men are denoted by a dash (-), or an asterisk (*), an interrogation-point (?), or some similar mark, signifying that the party so indicated is "not recommended for credit," or that the customer should "inquire at the office"—must, in view of recent decisions in slander and libel suits, be radically modified.

These establishments, with their numerous clerks, standing behind long rows of desks, on which lie ponderous volumes wherein can be learned a story, whether true or false, of every merchant in any part of the country whatever, will probably modify their business, or pass away liability, in view of recent decisions to slander suits arising out of their operations, being too heavy to incur.

In the Mercantile Agency case of Beardsley against Tappan, the plaintiff recovered ten thousand dollars; and upon a motion for a new trial, made before the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, the Hon. Samuel Nelson, one of the ablest Justices of the Supreme Court, has delivered an opinion denying the motion, holding that the publicity given to information depreciatory of the standing and character of merchants, "by recording the libelous words in a book, deprived the communication of its otherwise privileged character." He was further of opinion that "to legalize these establishments in the manner of the extent used by the defendant, is placing one portion of the mercantile community under an organized system of espionage and inquiry for the benefit of the other, exposed, from the very nature of the organization to perversion and abuse."

With the view of obviating the objectionable features of the former systems, a company, with a capital stock of \$500,000, divided into \$10 shares, has been organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of New-York, under the title of The Merchants' Protective Union, on a basis which seems to be free from the evils, difficulties, and embarrassments under which those heretofore in existence have labored. The plan adopted by The Merchants' Protective Union, though analogous in some particulars to that of the establishments above referred to, yet differs in such material respects as not to be amenable to the objections urged against them. The main points of difference being the following:

First. All necessary information as to the pecuniary responsibility or financial condition and standing of business men will be based upon the written statements of the parties themselves so far as attainable; so be furnished at least twice each year, the agents of the Union examining and revising such statements when deemed erroneous; and, where same can not be obtained from the parties themselves, or refusing to furnish it, information will be supplied by the reliable and responsible correspondents of the institution, whose names will also be published in the Mercantile Reference Reports, to be issued every six months. The character of its correspondents, and the publicity thus given to their connection with the organization, will provide a sufficient guarantee of the correctness of the information thus obtained, and the justice of the reports furnished by them. There will be nothing "secret" or "strictly confidential" in its reports of the ratings and markings of the credit and capital of business men there will be no futile prohibition to the effect that such information "shall never, in any way, be communicated to the persons reported"—there will be nothing that may not be exposed to the light of day.

Second. The reports and information furnished by The Merchants' Protective Union will be confined to those who are considered worthy of credit of some grade; and the names of none who can not be recommended for some line or degree

